DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY E Schmelzer DATE 7/2/85
DOS ☐ or XDS ☐ EXT. DATE ____ REASON(S) ____
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ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS ☐
DECLASSIFIED ☐ Objectives ☑ RELEASABLE
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(9) CONFIDENT

~~U.S.-SAUDI~~ MILITARY RELATIONSHIP

-- Longstanding security assistance relationship ~~dating back to 1951~~ Mutual Defense Assistance Agreement.

-- A series of USG surveys are basis for current force structure, weapons procurement and facility construction programs.

-- Saudi objective: to develop a modern defensive force structure, based on high technology systems as compensation for limited manpower reserves, capable of deterring potential aggressors and defending Kingdom and its petroleum wealth against hostile action.

-- U.S. objective: to support those requests which reflect legitimate defense needs and which are consistent with the President's arms policy.

Major Programs:

A. Military Transport and Cargo Aircraft

-- Lockheed began commercial sales of C-130s in 1965.

-- Forty delivered to date; none on order.

-- Total value: $400 million.

B. Hawk Air Defense System

-- Began in 1966 as commercial sale by Raytheon.

-- 1974 contract to upgrade to Improved Hawk.

-- 1976 contract for six batteries of Triad I-Hawk.

-- Estimated completion date: late 198]

-- Total value: $1.6 billion.

C. Saudi Ordnance Corps

-- Sale and maintenance of Saudi army vehicles.

-- Corps of Engineers manages civilian contractors through FMS procedures.

-- Program to run until at least 1979.

D. Saudi Naval Expansion

-- Surveys conducted in 1968.

-- U.S.-Saudi agreement in 1972 to provide under FMS:

--- 25 ships (includes six harbor craft) and training and maintenance.

--- Corps of Engineers supervising construction of naval bases at Jubail and Jidda.

-- Total value: $3 billion.

-- Expected completion: 1982.

E. F-5: "Peace Hawk"

-- Begun in 1971 under FMS procedures.

-- Northrop is prime contractor.

-- Total number of aircraft: 110 (F-5B/5E/5F)

-- Total value: $3 billion.

F. Saudi Arabian National Guard

-- 1973 agreement to modernize four battalions over five-year period.

-- Includes arms, equipment under FMS procedures and related training conducted by private contractors supervised by U.S. Army program managers.

-- Two battalions have completed training; the third has just begun.

-- Total value: $488 million.

G. Army Mechanization

-- LOAs signed in 1976 for training and equipment for mechanization of two of four infantry brigades.

-- Total value: $517 million.

-- Expected completion date: 1980.

H. Air Defense Command and Control

-- Lockheed commercial contract in 1973 to maintain and train in operation of early warning radar and air defense communications, previously installed by British.

-- Total value: $158.5 million.

I. Corps of Engineers

-- Engineering Assistance Agreement - 1965.

-- Supervises construction wide range of projects for the Ministry of Defense and Aviation and Saudi National Guard.

-- Corps of Engineers-supervised construction projects account for over sixty percent of all FMS sales to Saudi Arabia.

-- Total approved FMS construction: $9 billion.

Training:

-- Over the years U.S. Armed Forces have assisted in training of Saudi Armed Forces.

-- Training includes training in country by MTTs, TAFTs, and at U.S. service schools.

-- Unique to Saudi programs are two major training programs under which approximately 2,000 Saudi Navy seamen and 1,000 Saudi Air Force technicians are provided basic military training, English language and specialty training for three years per man.